GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:174
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2016
Tribunals
Vichare Shri Rajan Baburao

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any study on the functioning/effectiveness of tribunals and if so, the outcome thereof;
(b) whether these tribunals have been successful in achieving their objectives and if not, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to review/improve their functioning;
(c) the present status of progress made regarding merger of various Tribunals in the country; and
(d) whether the Government proposes to introduce a legislation to enable a High Court Judge to be appointed as Chairperson of such tribunals and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.174 FOR 28.7.2016.

A study has been conducted by the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice in consultation with Indian Law Institute(ILI) and other stakeholders including administrative Ministries administering the Tribunals. The ILI in its report has recommended that the 36 identified Tribunals functioning under various administrative Ministries may be merged to 17 Tribunals and a single nodal Ministry can be entrusted for administration of these Tribunals.
A High Level Inter-Ministerial Group was constituted to examine the issue of merger of Tribunals. The Terms of Reference of the IMG were as under:
i) The IMG shall study the report submitted by Indian Law Institute, look into the comments received from various Ministries/Departments and give its suggestion on convergence/merger of tribunals; and
ii) Issue relating to the feasibility and need for one nodal agency for administrative control over Tribunal.
Subsequently, the ambit of the IMG was extended to look into the issue of uniformity of service conditions of the Chairman and Members of the Tribunals. Several meetings has taken place and the IMG is likely to finalize its views.